

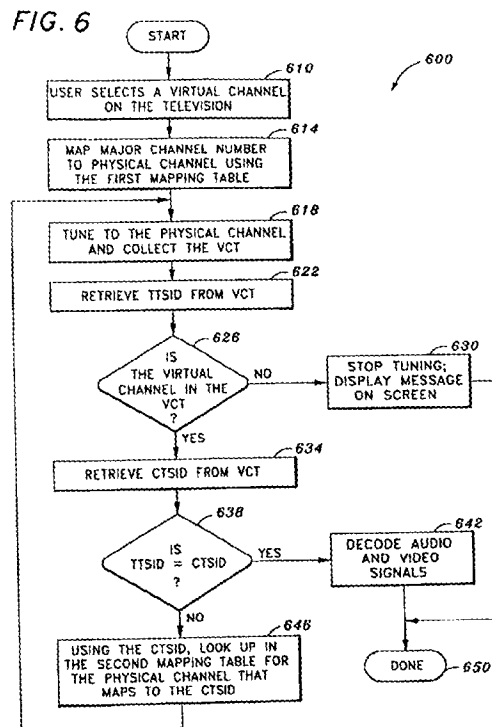
**REMARKS**

Reconsideration and allowance of the above-identified application are respectfully requested. Claims 1, 2, 4 and 5 are now pending, wherein claims are 1, 2 and 5 are amended and claims 6-9 are canceled.

Applicants would like to thank Examiner Raman for her time and courtesy during the personal interview conducted with the undersigned on December 23, 2008. The following summarizes the issues discussed during the personal interview.

Claims 1, 2, 4, 8 and 9 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being obvious in view of the combination of McDermott, Mears and U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2005/0005307 (Kim). Claim 5 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being obvious in view of the combination of McDermott and Mears. Claim 6 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being obvious in view of the combination of McDermott, Mears and U.S. Patent No. 6,483,547 (Eyer). Claim 7 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being obvious in view of the combination of McDermott, Mears, Eyer and Kim. These grounds of rejection are respectfully traversed.

As discussed during the personal interview, McDermott discloses always obtaining the latest VCT for channel selection. This is clearly illustrated by steps 618 and 622 of Figure 6 of McDermott (reproduced below).



Kim discloses providing information to identify active and inactive channels, and Mears discloses selecting a predetermined sub-channel when an invalid channel is selected. Accordingly, even if one skilled in the art were motivated to combine McDermott, Kim and Mears, the combination would at most disclose retrieving the most recent VCT every time a channel selection is performed (as disclosed by McDermott), identifying active and inactive channels (as disclosed by Mears), and selecting a predetermined sub-channel if a channel that is identified as inactive in the VCT is selected (as disclosed by Mears).

In contrast, Applicants' claim 1 is amended to recite that

when the control unit finds channel information for the desired channel in the memory, the control unit tries to select the channel by referencing the VCT stored in the memory due to a previous selection, by a user, of a main channel corresponding to a main channel of the desired channel,

Thus, the combination of McDermott, Mears and Kim does not disclose or suggest making a channel selection using only a VCT stored in memory due to a previous channel selection, but instead discloses always obtaining a new VCT for each channel selection. Accordingly, the combination does not render claim 1 unpatentable. Claims 2 and 5 are amended to recite similar elements and are patentably distinguishable for similar reasons. Claim 4 is patentably distinguishable at least by virtue of its dependency from claim 2.


For at least those reasons set forth above, it is respectfully requested that the rejection of claims 1, 2, 4 and 5 be withdrawn.

If there are any questions regarding this response or the application in general, a telephone call to the undersigned would be appreciated since this should expedite the prosecution of the application for all concerned.

If necessary to effect a timely response, this paper should be considered as a petition for an Extension of Time sufficient to effect a timely response, and please charge any deficiency in fees or credit any overpayments to Deposit Account No. 05-1323 (Docket # 010482.50891).

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Respectfully submitted,

  
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